

DOCKET NO. 92-641-C - ORDER NO. 93-125

IN RE: Application of Metro Mobile CTS of
Greenville, Inc. for a Certificate of
Public Convenience and Necessity.) ORDER
) GRANTING
) CERTIFICATE
)

On December 3, 1992, Metro Mobile CTS of Greenville, Inc. (Metro Mobile or the Company) filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide domestic public cellular radio telecommunications service in Oconee County, South Carolina, which has been designated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as South Carolina Rural Service Area No. 1 (S.C. RSA No. 1). Metro Mobile seeks to provide such service on a permanent basis and also seeks approval of a proposed tariff of rates and charges for its service. Metro Mobile is a majority and managing general partner of Greenville Cellular Telephone Company (GCTC), which currently has interim authority to provide cellular service in the requested area. The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann., §58-11-100 (1976), as amended.

By letter, the Commission's Executive Director instructed Metro Mobile to publish a prepared Notice of Filing, one time, in

a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the Company's Application. The Notice of Filing indicated the nature of the Company's Application and advised all interested parties desiring participation in the scheduled proceeding of the manner and time in which to file appropriate pleadings. No Petitions to Intervene or Protests were received. The Commission received the verified direct testimony of Jack Plating, Vice President of Metro Mobile. The Commission hereby accepts Plating's verified testimony in lieu of a hearing in this matter.

Plating's testimony states that Metro Mobile is the general and managing partner of Greenville Cellular Telephone Company, which holds a license issued by the FCC, and is certificated by this Commission to operate a Domestic Public Cellular Radio Telecommunications system in the Greenville-Spartanburg MSA. GCTC also currently holds interim authority to provide service in S.C. RSA No. 1. This certification was granted by the Commission in its Order No. 91-442 in Docket No. 91-071-C. Pursuant to this certification, Metro Mobile commenced operation in the management of the system serving S.C. RSA No. 1 in May of 1991, and continues to do so at the present time.

S.C. RSA No. 1 consists of Oconee County, which is bordered by the Anderson MSA to the south, and the Greenville-Spartanburg MSA to the east. GCTC and Anderson CellTelCo, another affiliate of Metro Mobile, currently serves both MSA's. Plating states that as a result, Metro Mobile can effectuate economies of scale with a unified management, engineering, accounting, and marketing

structure, all of which are already in place to provide service to the S.C. RSA No. 1. The capabilities presently existing in the Greenville-Spartanburg MSA system together with the interim facility is already constructed. According to Plating, it would more than sufficient to provide S.C. RSA No. 1 with non-wireline cellular service promptly and continuously. Additionally, Plating states that having owned and operated the system on a interim basis in S.C. RSA No. 1 for more than a year and a half, Metro Mobile is most familiar with the system and the current customers.

Metro Mobile proposes to continue using the existing system approved by the Commission in Docket No. 91-071-C, with any changes or modifications being made within the parameters of FCC engineering standards.

Plating includes as an exhibit to his testimony, the FCC permit previously issued to Asset Management, which the FCC has assigned to Metro Mobile.

Plating states that technicians employed by Metro Mobile and S.C. RSA No. 1 will conduct periodic on site inspections of all of the radio and switching equipment. Technicians will also be available on 24-hour calling basis for emergency system repairs. The switch, in addition, has certain built-in controlled diagnostic and alarm functions, which monitor the system on a continuance basis, and alert all personal of any abnormalities that may result.

Plating alleges that several specific provisions have been made to ensure the reliability of the service, and that back-up

batteries at the cell site and portable generators for recharging batteries, if necessary, are present. Metro Mobile has a complete inventory of spare parts to make any needed repairs in an emergency situation, and otherwise.

The FCC specifically determined that Metro Mobile is financially qualified under its Rules and Regulations to construct and operate the proposed system and provide cellular services. With regard to its tariff, Metro Mobile proposes that it be allowed to continue using GCTC tariff S.C. PSC No. 1, previously approved by this Commission, and that it be allowed to charge the rates and charges provided thereunder.

Upon an examination of the record as a whole, this Commission concludes that Metro Mobile is fit, willing, and able to provide cellular service in South Carolina RSA No. 1 on a permanent basis. Further, the Commission believes that Metro Mobile should be allowed to continue to use the previously approved GCTC tariff S.C. PSC No. 1, and be allowed to charge the rates and charges provided thereunder.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

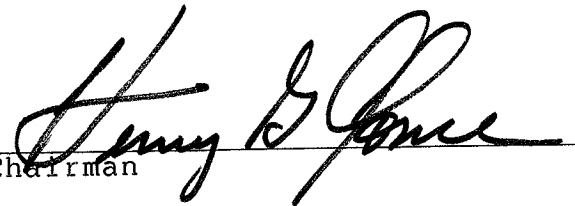
1. The Application of Metro Mobile CTS of Greenville, Inc. for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide domestic public cellular radio telecommunications service in Oconee County, South Carolina, which is S.C. RSA No. 1, is hereby granted on a permanent basis.

2. That the tariff, GCTC Tariff S.C. PSC No. 1, previously approved by this Commission is once again approved for use by


Metro Mobile.

3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect
until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)